

Prostate Cancer Mortality Facts District of Columbia Residents

1994-1998

STATE CENTER FOR HEALTH STATISTICS

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Government of the District of Columbia

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September 2000

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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September 2000

Table of Contents

| | Page |
|------------------|-------------|
| Highlights | 1 |

List of Tables

| | |
|---|---|
| Table 1: Leading Sites for Cancer Mortality Among Males: District of Columbia Residents, 1998.. | 2 |
| Table 2: Number of Prostate Cancer Deaths by Race and Gender: District of Columbia Residents, 1994-1998 | 2 |
| Table 3: Number of Prostate Cancer Deaths by Ward: District of Columbia Residents, 1994-1998 | 2 |
| Table 4: Crude and Age-adjusted Death Rates for Prostate Cancer: District of Columbia Residents, 1994-1998 | 3 |
| Table 5: Number of Prostate Cancer Deaths by Age Group: District of Columbia Residents, 1994-1998 | 3 |
| Table 6: Crude Death Rate for Prostate Cancer by Age Group: District of Columbia Residents, 1994-1998 | 4 |
| Table 7: Number of Prostate Cancer Deaths by Age Group and Race : District of Columbia Residents, 1994-1998 | 4 |
| Table 8: Crude Death Rate for Prostate Cancer by Race: District of Columbia Residents, 1994-1998 | 5 |

List of Figures

| | |
|--|---|
| Figure 1: Number of Prostate Cancer Deaths by Age Group: District of Columbia Residents, 1994-1998 | 6 |
| Figure 2: Prostate Cancer Deaths by Race and Age Group: District of Columbia Residents, 1994-1998 | 6 |

Prostate Cancer Mortality Facts District of Columbia Residents, 1994-1998

Highlights

Excluding cancers of the lung and bronchus, cancer of the prostate is the most common malignancy and the second leading cause of cancer death among men in the District of Columbia (Table 1). In the District of Columbia, the number of prostate cancer deaths has declined from 157 in 1994 to 87 in 1998 (Table 2). Among blacks, the number of prostate cancer deaths has declined from 129 in 1994 to 73 in 1998, while among whites it declined from 27 deaths in 1994 to 12 deaths in 1998, a decrease of 43 percent and 56 percent, respectively. Prostate cancer deaths by ward show a fairly even distribution throughout this five-year period except for Ward 4, which consistently had the highest number of deaths (Table 3). Both the crude and age-adjusted death rates for prostate cancer have shown a general downward trend over the period with the crude rate decreasing by 40 percent and the age-adjusted rate decreasing by 43 percent (Table 4). Table 8 shows the prostate cancer death rate by race. Based on these rates, black men in the District of Columbia are twice as likely to die from prostate cancer as white men.

Leading Sites of Cancer Mortality: The five leading sites of cancer mortality for men in the District of Columbia in 1998 were lung and bronchus, followed by prostate, colon, stomach and esophagus, respectively (Table 1). This ranking was the same for both black and white males. However, for each site, black males outnumbered white males by at least three to one.

Age: The proportion of prostate cancer mortality increases with age (Table 5 and Figure 1). Of all prostate cancer deaths in the District of Columbia between 1994 and 1998, 91.6 percent were men over the age of 65 years. Prostate cancer death is rare in men younger than 50 years old. The crude death rate was 48.4 per 100,000 population for men ages 50-54, 61.2 for men ages 55-59, 358.4 for men ages 60-64, and 1,909.2 for men 65 years and over (Table 6).

Race: Black men in the District of Columbia are more likely to die from prostate cancer than white men above the age of 44 years (Table 7 and Figure 2). In fact, the crude prostate cancer mortality rate for black men was more than double that for white men for each of the five years from 1994 through 1998 (Table 8). In 1994, the crude death rate for white men was 30.5 per 100,000 population, and for black men the rate was more than double at 76.8 per 100,000 population. From 1994 to 1998 the rates have generally declined for both whites and blacks with 1998 showing a rate of 13.7 per 100,000 population for whites and 48.9 for blacks (Table 8). The crude rate for blacks in 1997 was 40.7, which was the lowest for this five-year period.

Years of Potential Life Lost (YPLL): In 1998, cancer was the leading cause of premature mortality in the District of Columbia. All cancer deaths occurring before age 65 years in 1998 contributed 5,435 YPLL for District residents. Prostate cancer deaths contributed only 38 years to the YPLL. Although cancer mortality numbers and rates are still relatively high for District of Columbia residents, an increasing number of cases are being detected and treated earlier, a finding which may contribute to longer life after a diagnosis of prostate cancer.

**Table 1: Leading Sites for Cancer Mortality Among Males:
District of Columbia Residents, 1998**

| Sites by Rank | Number of Deaths | Race | | |
|----------------------|------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| | | Black | White | Other |
| 1. Lung and Bronchus | 189 | 153 | 33 | 3 |
| 2. Prostate | 87 | 73 | 12 | 2 |
| 3. Colon | 61 | 49 | 11 | 1 |
| 4. Stomach | 33 | 25 | 7 | 1 |
| 5. Esophagus | 30 | 27 | 3 | 0 |

Source: State Center for Health Statistics, DC Department of Health.

**Table 2: Number of Prostate Cancer Deaths by Race and Gender:
District of Columbia Residents, 1994-1998**

| Year | Total | Black | White | Other |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1994 | 157 | 129 | 27 | 1 |
| 1995 | 123 | 100 | 23 | 0 |
| 1996 | 125 | 105 | 20 | 0 |
| 1997 | 80 | 62 | 18 | 0 |
| 1998 | 87 | 73 | 12 | 2 |
| Total | 572 | 469 | 100 | 3 |

Source: State Center for Health Statistics, DC Department of Health.

**Table 3: Number of Prostate Cancer Deaths by Ward:
District of Columbia Residents, 1994-1998**

| Year | Total | Ward 1 | Ward 2 | Ward 3 | Ward 4 | Ward 5 | Ward 6 | Ward 7 | Ward 8 | Unknown |
|------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| 1994 | 157 | 14 | 13 | 12 | 31 | 18 | 20 | 19 | 14 | 16 |
| 1995 | 123 | 11 | 9 | 11 | 25 | 24 | 15 | 18 | 9 | 1 |
| 1996 | 125 | 10 | 9 | 16 | 31 | 19 | 11 | 19 | 10 | 0 |
| 1997 | 80 | 4 | 7 | 5 | 21 | 14 | 10 | 13 | 5 | 1 |
| 1998 | 87 | 8 | 11 | 7 | 26 | 10 | 10 | 12 | 3 | 0 |

Source: State Center for Health Statistics, DC Department of Health.

**Table 4: Crude and Age-adjusted Death Rates for Prostate Cancer:
District of Columbia Residents, 1994-1998**

| Year | Number | Crude Rate | Age-adjusted Rate |
|-------------|---------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 1994 | 157 | 27.7 | 15.2 |
| 1995 | 123 | 22.3 | 12.3 |
| 1996 | 125 | 23.2 | 12.3 |
| 1997 | 80 | 15.1 | 7.8 |
| 1998 | 87 | 16.6 | 8.7 |

Crude rates are per 100,000 estimated population.

Age-adjusted rates are per 100,000 U.S. 1940 standard population.

Source: DC Department of Health, State Center for Health Statistics.

**Table 5: Number of Prostate Cancer Deaths by Age Group:
District of Columbia Residents, 1994-1998**

| Age Group | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 |
|------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 0-44 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 45-49 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 50-54 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| 55-59 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| 60-64 | 11 | 11 | 6 | 2 | 3 |
| 65-69 | 28 | 16 | 13 | 9 | 7 |
| 70-74 | 25 | 25 | 17 | 11 | 14 |
| 75+ | 90 | 68 | 85 | 55 | 60 |
| Total | 157 | 123 | 125 | 79 | 87 |

Source: DC Department of Health, State Center for Health Statistics.

**Table 6: Crude Death Rate for Prostate Cancer by Age Group:
District of Columbia Residents, 1994-1998**

| Age Group | Number of Deaths | Crude Rate |
|------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 0-44 | 0 | 0 |
| 45-49 | 1 | 5.8 |
| 50-54 | 7 | 48.4 |
| 55-59 | 7 | 61.2 |
| 60-64 | 33 | 358.4 |
| 65+ | 524 | 1,909.2 |

Rates are per 100,000 estimated population.

Source: DC Department of Health, State Center for Health Statistics.

**Table 7: Number of Prostate Cancer Deaths by Age Group and Race:
District of Columbia Residents, 1994 - 1998**

| Age Group | Total Deaths | Race | | |
|------------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | | Black | White | Other |
| 0-44 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 45-49 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 50-54 | 7 | 6 | 1 | 0 |
| 55-59 | 7 | 5 | 2 | 0 |
| 60-64 | 33 | 32 | 1 | 0 |
| 65-69 | 73 | 65 | 5 | 3 |
| 70-74 | 92 | 80 | 11 | 1 |
| 75+ | 359 | 280 | 53 | 26 |
| Total | 572 | 469 | 73 | 30 |

Source: DC Department of Health, State Center for Health Statistics.

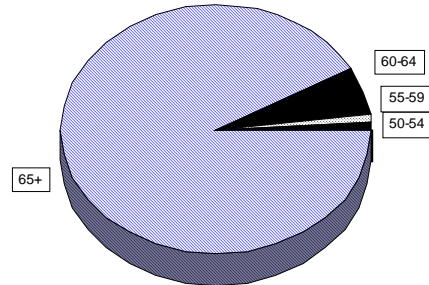
**Table 8: Crude Death Rate for Prostate Cancer by Race :
District of Columbia Residents, 1994-1998**

| Year | Black | | White | |
|-------------|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| | Number of Deaths | Crude Rate | Number of Deaths | Crude Rate |
| 1994 | 129 | 76.8 | 27 | 30.5 |
| 1995 | 100 | 61.3 | 23 | 26.3 |
| 1996 | 105 | 66.9 | 20 | 22.9 |
| 1997 | 62 | 40.7 | 18 | 20.5 |
| 1998 | 73 | 48.9 | 12 | 13.7 |

Crude rate per 100,000 estimate population.

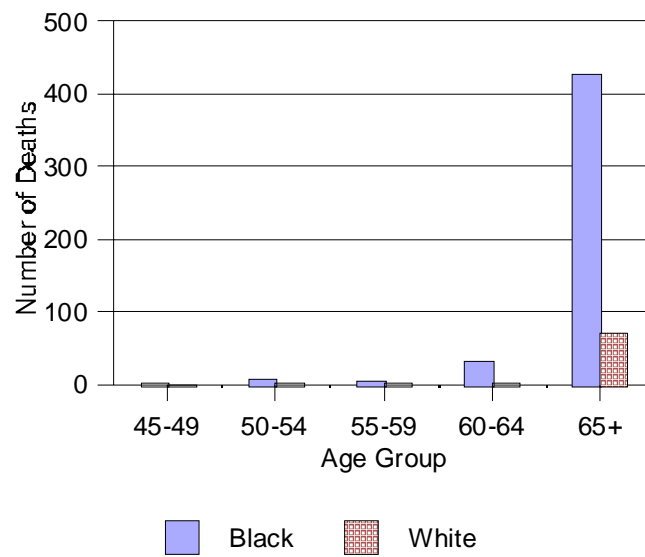
Source: DC Department of Health, State Center for Health Statistics.

**Figure 1: Number of Prostate Cancer Deaths by Age Group:
District of Columbia, 1994-1998**



Source: DC Department of Health, State Center for Health Statistics.

**Figure 2: Prostate Cancer Deaths by Race and Age Group:
District of Columbia Residents, 1994-1998**



Source: DC Department of Health, State Center for Health Statistics.